OFFICIAL

RECEIVED
CENTRAL FAX CENTER

JOHNSON & JOHNSON
CORPORATE HEADQUARTERS
PATENT LAW DEPARTMENT
ONE JOHNSON & JOHNSON PLAZA
NEW BRUNSWICK, NEW JERSEY 08933-7003

JUN 0 3 2004

FACSIMILE TRANSMISSIONS COVERSHEET

DATE: June 3, 2004

ATTENTION: P. Philogene

COMPANY: PTO

FACSIMILE NO.: 703-872-9302

FROM: Brian S. Tomko

TELEPHONE NO.: (732) 524-1239   FACIMILE NO.: (732)-524-5575

NUMBER OF PAGES INCLUDING THIS COVER SHEET: 10

COMMENTS: **Re: 09/492,558**
                Our Ref.: HRT0233

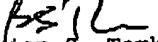**Attached are an Amendment and Petition for Extension of Time.**

Docket No. HRT0233

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicants	:	James R. Gannoe, et al.		
Serial No.	:	09/492,558	Art Unit :	3732
Filed	:	January 27, 2000	Examiner :	P. Philogene
Title	:	APPARATUS AND METHOD FOR CARDIAC SURGERY		

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being faxed to the
United States Patent & Trademark Office at (703) 872-9306 on June 3, 2004

Brian S. Tomko

(Name of applicant, assignee, or Registered Representative)

Honorable Commissioner of Patents
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

AMENDMENT

Dear Sir:

In response to the Office Action dated February 6, 2004, the time for responding having been extended by petition, please amend the above-identified application as follows:

Amendments to the claims are reflected in the listing of claims which begins on page 2 of this document.

Remarks begin on page 6 of this document.